

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 29, 2008. Claims 8 to 18 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding the correctness of the rejection. Claims 1 to 7, 19 and 20 are pending in the application, of which claims 1, 9 and 20 are in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claim 7 contains allowable subject matter, and was merely objected to for its dependence on a rejected base claim. Despite this indication, the claims have been amended.

Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 20 has been amended along the lines suggested in the Office Action. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 101 rejection are respectfully requested.

Of the claims now pending, Claims 1, 3 to 6, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,047,955 (Shope), and Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Shope in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0186384 (Winston). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention involves transmitting a document formed by a plurality of logical pages to a printing device, and allowing the printing device to perform a printing process in set units. The plurality of logical pages for each of a plurality of sets are spooled, and a printing mode for output of a plurality of logical pages to one print sheet is designated. One logical page identical in drawing information to a first logical page is

retrieved from among the spooled plurality of logical pages, when the printing mode is designated. Drawing information from the first logical page to a logical page just previous to the retrieved one logical page is determined to be drawing information for one of the plurality of sets. A print command to be transmitted to the printing device is generated based on the determined drawing information for the one set, and the generated print command is transmitted to the printing device.

By virtue of the foregoing, the printing device can perform printing of a plurality of logical pages in set units.

Applicant submits that Shope is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 1, 19 and 20, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of (i) retrieving, from among the spooled plurality of logical pages, one logical page identical in drawing information to a first logical page when the printing mode is designated, and (ii) determining drawing information from the first logical page to a logical page just previous to the retrieved one logical page to be drawing information for one of the plurality of sets.

Shope is seen to disclose storing rasterized signals of multi-page documents so that a plurality of electronically collated, multi-page sets can be printed without re-rasterization. Shope is seen to disclose an electronic collation means for presenting the stored image data for printing in the proper sequence, as often as is needed to produce the desired number of collated document sets, whereby a plurality of electronically collated, multi-page sets can be printed without re-rasterization.

However, Shope is believed to be silent on (i) retrieving, from among the spooled plurality of logical pages, one logical page identical in drawing information to a

first logical page when the printing mode is designated, and (ii) determining drawing information from the first logical page to a logical page just previous to the retrieved one logical page to be drawing information for one of the plurality of sets.

Therefore, Shope is not believed to teach or suggest the features of Claims 1, 19 and 20.

Winston has been studied, but it is not seen to teach anything that, when combined with Shope, would overcome the deficiencies of Shope as described above.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent Claims 1, 19 and 20, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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FCIS_WS 2169670v1